

IBM Docket No. JP919990298US1

In response to the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 5, 9, 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Poradish et al '753, applicants traverses the rejection and believe that the claims are not obvious by the Poradish et al.

Applicants agree that Poradish fails to teach or suggest the use of a "single" spatial light modulator as claimed in applicants' claimed invention. Applicants' claimed invention requires:

"...a micro mirror type spatial light modulator for projecting light, emitted from a light source, on a corresponding area by tilting a reflecting surface;

a first light source for emitting a first light which is projected on said corresponding area by said reflecting surface of said spatial light modulator being tilted at a first angle;

a second light source for emitting a second light which is projected on said corresponding area by said reflecting surface of said spatial light modulator being tilted at a second angle; and

a control section for controlling said first light emitted from said first light source and said second light emitted from said second light source."

It would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to just "remove" one element to make applicants' claimed invention. The removal of the modulator 30 of Poradish would not yield the required structure of the claimed invention. First, the modulators of Poradish do not have tilting reflective surfaces. Second, the removal of one of the modulators would yield a device that fails to reflect the proper light signal to the screen because there would be no way to cause the light reflected from the mirrors 26 to change the angle of reflection. Poradish discloses that the concept of removing an element to have a single lens 32 is not a simple task, see column 4, lines 60 – 63. The

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same can be said for the removal of a spatial light modulator. Therefore, one would not be motivated to make the modifications as suggested by the Examiner to make applicants' claimed invention.

The Examiner's reliance on In re Karlson, 136 USPQ 184, is misplaced with regards to the present claimed invention. The remaining elements **do not (and would not)** perform the same function as before with multiple elements. The modulators 30 of Poradish function differently than that of the present claimed invention.

Another difference between Poradish and the claimed invention is that Poradish does not teach or suggest the use of a modulator to receive light only from one light source at a time. What Poradish would teach is the fact that both light sources would reflect of the modulator at the same time.

Therefore, the Poradish reference fails to anticipate or make obvious applicants' claimed invention

Applicants appreciate the indicated allowability of the claims 2 – 4, 6 – 8, 11 and 13 – 19. It is now believed that the remaining claims are also allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the changes to the claims and the remarks herein, applicants believe that the application is now condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and allow the above-identified application. If the Examiner wishes to discuss the application further, or if additional information would be required, the undersigned will cooperate fully to assist in the prosecution of this application.

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In the event that this amendment does not result in allowance of all such claims, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone interview at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked up changes for the claims:

1. (Amended) An illuminating-light controller comprising:

a micro mirror type spatial light modulator for projecting light, emitted from a light source, on a corresponding area by tilting a reflecting surface;

a first light source for emitting a first light which is projected on said corresponding area by [illuminating said first light to] said reflecting surface of said spatial light modulator being tilted at a first angle;

a second light source for emitting a second light which is projected on said corresponding area by [illuminating said second light to] said reflecting surface of said spatial light modulator being tilted at a second angle; and

a control section for controlling said first light emitted from said first light source and said second light emitted from said second light source.

9. (Amended) An illuminating-light controller comprising:

a light modulator for projecting light on a corresponding area by tilting a reflecting surface;

a first light source for emitting a first light which is projected on said corresponding area by [illuminating said first light to] said reflecting surface of said spatial light modulator being tilted at a first angle;

a second light source for emitting a second light which is projected on said corresponding area by [illuminating said second light to] said reflecting surface of said spatial light modulator being tilted at a second angle; and

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a control section for controlling said first light emitted from said first light source and said second light emitted from said second light source.

12. (Amended) An illuminating-light controller comprising:

a light modulator for projecting light on a corresponding area by tilting a reflecting surface;

a plurality of light sources for emitting light which are projected on said corresponding area by [illuminating said light from each of said plurality of light sources to] said reflecting surface of said light modulator;

said reflecting surface is [tilt able] **tiltable** to a plurality of angles, each angle corresponding to the projection of light from one of said plurality of light sources; and

a control section for controlling said plurality of light sources.

13. (Amended) A method for directing a first [illuminating] light from a first light source and [directing] a second [illuminating] light from a second light source[,] to a projection lens by tilting a micro mirror of a spatial light modulator to reflect said first [illuminating light] and [said] second [illuminating] lights at said micro mirror, said method comprising the steps of:

directing said first [illuminating] light to said projection lens by tilting said micro mirror at a first angle to reflect said first [illuminating] light at said micro mirror; and

directing said second [illuminating] light to said projection lens by tilting said micro mirror at a second angle to reflect said second [illuminating] light at said micro mirror.

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a control section for controlling said first light emitted from said first light source and said second light emitted from said second light source.

12. (Amended) An illuminating-light controller comprising:

a light modulator for projecting light on a corresponding area by tilting a reflecting surface;

a plurality of light sources for emitting light which are projected on said corresponding area by [illuminating said light from each of said plurality of light sources to] said reflecting surface of said light modulator;

said reflecting surface is [tilt able] tiltable to a plurality of angles, each angle corresponding to the projection of light from one of said plurality of light sources; and

a control section for controlling said plurality of light sources.

13. (Amended) A method for directing a first [illuminating] light from a first light source and [directing] a second [illuminating] light from a second light source[,] to a projection lens by tilting a micro mirror of a spatial light modulator to reflect said first [illuminating light] and [said] second [illuminating] lights at said micro mirror, said method comprising the steps of:

directing said first [illuminating] light to said projection lens by tilting said micro mirror at a first angle to reflect said first [illuminating] light at said micro mirror; and

directing said second [illuminating] light to said projection lens by tilting said micro mirror at a second angle to reflect said second [illuminating] light at said micro mirror.